GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:746
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2015
Survey of Children
Chandel Kunwar Pushpendra Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any survey of children in collaboration with the UNICEF, if so, the details and outcomes thereof;

(b) whether the Government has released the data on the said survey, if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which the said data is likely to be released; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on conducting the said survey?

Answer

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) commissioned a Rapid Survey on Children (RSOC) across 29 States during 2013-14 with technical and financial assistance from UNICEF India. The field work of the survey was conducted during November 2013 to May 2014. The key objective of the survey was to assess the situation of children and women in the country with special emphasis on access and utilization of services under the ICDS Scheme and to provide baseline data for the restructured ICDS Scheme.

A positive trend has been observed in respect of improvement in key health and nutrition indicators (child nutrition and maternal health) at the national level, in comparison to the last held national survey viz., NFHS-III during 2005-06. As per the findings of the survey, proportion of moderately underweight children below five years is 29.4 percent as against 42.5 percent in NFHS-3, 2005-06 and severely underweight is 9.5 percent as against 15.8 percent in NFHS-3, 2005-06.

The provisional national fact sheet containing key maternal and child health and nutrition indicators including information on access and utilization of ICDS services has been released by the MWCD and is available on its website. A Technical Committee led by Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) with Members from MoHFW, MWCD and NITI Aayog has been entrusted for review of State level factsheets with respect to sampling methodology.

The survey was conducted with financial assistance from UNICEF.